## Apl. No. 10/587,156; H0498.70219US02 Claim amendments for discussion purposes only

## 1. A method comprising:

providing a first and a second fluid maintained separately from each other by a third fluid in a common, sealed vessel, wherein the third fluid is <u>adjacent to and</u> substantially immiscible with the first and second fluids, and wherein the first, second and third fluids are stored within the common, sealed vessel for at least one day;

unsealing the vessel;

transferring the first, third, and second fluids in series from the vessel to a reaction site;

allowing the first, third, and second fluids to contact a surface of the reaction site;

to carrying out a predetermined chemical or biochemical reaction at the surface of the reaction site; and

avoiding <u>substantial</u> contact between the first and second fluids, at least until after the fluids have been applied to the reaction site.